



MEETING MINUTES

Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee

Meeting 23-10
Thursday, October 12, 2023 – 7:00 PM

This meeting was held virtually and recorded for public access. It can be viewed at the following link:

<https://rockvillemd.webex.com/webappng/sites/rockvillemd/recording/b61969b74b81103c87fe8e7ef5067c95/playback>

Minutes

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1. Welcome
 - a. Meeting Recording
 - b. Introductions
 - c. Approval of June 2023 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Kathleen Kleinmann moved to approve the June 2023 minutes;
SECOND: Eric Fulton seconded; DISCUSSION: David Stinchcomb identified two typographic errors which were corrected; APPROVAL: Unanimous

- d. Approval of September 2023 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: David Stinchcomb moved to approve the September 2023 minutes;
SECOND: Eric Fulton seconded; DISCUSSION: none; APPROVAL: Unanimous

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2. City Updates
 - a. Town Center Road Diets
 - b. Vision Zero Intersections
 - c. Sidewalk Feasibility Studies
 - i. Round 1 Design
 1. Highland Ave
 2. Frederick Avenue
 3. Monroe Street

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4. Nelson Street
 - ii. Round 2 Study
 1. Carr Avenue
 2. Charles Street
 3. Croydon Avenue
 4. Gail Avenue
 5. Woodland Road

City staff will prepare a map of Vision Zero intersection safety audits and sidewalk feasibility studies.

The Town Center Master Plan recently completed listening sessions and the results are shared on the website - <https://engagerockville.com/towncenter>

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3. RCPD Report
 - a. Monthly Crash Report
 - b. Pedestrian Crashes

There were seven pedestrian crashes in September. Two crashes were in parking lots. Four crashes involved pedestrians in the crosswalk. Motorists often indicate that pedestrians were not seen at the time of the crash. There are many concerns raised regarding motorists who are not looking for pedestrians while operating vehicles.

MOTION: Kathleen Kleinmann moved to recommend that the Police Department consider a required vision revaluation with the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration when motorists are deemed at fault for a pedestrian crash and make the statement that they didn't see a pedestrian; SECOND: Carol Nicholas seconded the motion; DISCUSSION: there is much concern related to motorists who indicate that they didn't see pedestrians at the time of a crash and then are permitted to continue operating a motor vehicle; APPROVAL: Unanimous.

As a follow up to a question from a previous meeting, in line skaters should be considered pedestrians per RCPD.

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4. Pedestrian Master Plan
 - a. Mayor and Council presentation and public hearing
 - b. Next steps – October 23, 2023, is the Discussion and Introduction, and the potential approval is scheduled for October 30, 2023.
 - c. Comments –
 - i. Public comment window is open until October 13, 2023.
 - ii. There was much discussion related to a single shared use path study recommendation in the Plan. This segment will not drastically impact the overall outcome of the plan.

5. Walktober Events

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- a. Bingo Card is available online.
 - b. Maryland Department of Planning and Center for Smart Growth are hosting Walkinars in October. These are pedestrian focused webinars.
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6. Open Discussion

- a. There are 59 bus stops which are being improved as part of a grant funded project. This list will be shared with the RPAC list serv.
 - b. A resident recently attempted to request a bench along a park trail, but was told that adding the bench would require the entire trail to be ADA accessible, which was feasible. The recently approved rule for Pedestrian Accessibility on public rights of way indicates that alterations of existing built facilities do not necessarily result in complete renovations for accessibility. In short, ADA requirements should not prevent other improvements.
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7. RBAC coordination

- a. The October RBAC meeting was a dinner meeting.
 - b. The September meeting included discussion of installing more bicycle parking. This can be complicated by property owners not being as interested in installing parking.
 - c. RBAC members also met with Town Center and led City Planners on a bicycle ride.
 - d. There is interest for a youth and family bicycle festival in September 2024.
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8. Adjourn Meeting – 8:17 pm

- a. Next Meeting: November 9, 2023, 7:00 PM

Minutes prepared by Bryan Barnett- Woods and reviewed by Eric Fulton.